State of Utah
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DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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September 18, 2003

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Paul Baker, Senior Reclamation Biologist

Subject: Site Inspection, Molycorp, Small Fry Mine, M/037/022, San Juan County, Utah

Date of Inspection: August 19, 2003
Time of Inspection: About 5:00 to 5:20 p.m.
Conditions: Partly Cloudy, 90's
Participants: Doug Jensen and Paul Baker (DOGM)

Purpose of Inspection:

The site was regraded last year and reseeded this spring, so our purpose was to see how vegetation is progressing.

Observations:

Vegetation is spotty with good growth in some places and very little in others (Photo 1). Most of the vegetation consists of grasses, and I am uncertain whether these are volunteer grain from the straw mulch or if it is seeded species.

Some large rocks were placed at the beginning of the access road, and Denice Swanke of the BLM installed a sign asking people to stay out of the area. We saw no evidence of anyone trying to drive around the rocks to get into the area, but it does appear someone, perhaps the seeding contractor, drove over some of the roads after they were ripped (Photos 2 and 3).

Conclusions and Recommendations:

It is still too early to say with certainty how successful revegetation efforts will be. The Division and operator should check the site again next spring.

jb
cc: Denice Swanke, Moab BLM
        Dick Brammer, Molycorp
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Utah!
Where ideas connect

ATTACHMENT

Photographs
M/037/022, Small Fry Mine, Molycorp
Inspection Date: August 19, 2003; Report Date: September 18, 2003

Photo 1. Vegetation that has become established in parts of the reclaimed area.

Photo 3. Another view of one of the roads.

Photo 2. Two roads near the mine site. Note how it appears someone drove over the area after it was ripped.